'He's' now a 'she' but wife, kids still want$'

Former man must still pay child support

WESTMINSTER, Md. (UPI) — A county prosecutor Tuesday asked that a transsexual be held in contempt of court for not paying child support to two children she sired while she was a man.

But Brenda Roberts, the former male, said she made the payment and would "hire a lawyer and appeal the case all the way."

The payment was due at the Carroll County State's Attorney's office by 4 p.m. Friday and Assistant State's Attorney Marcie Sweren said it was not in the office Tuesday. Ms. Roberts said she mailed the $40 payment Friday.

"I sent the money even though I can't afford it. And I'm going to fight the order anyway. I sent the money so I wouldn't have to go to jail. I don't want to go to jail," said Ms. Roberts, 33, of Baltimore.

Ms. Sweren said Ms. Roberts could face a maximum penalty of 179 days in jail if found in contempt of court.

Ms. Roberts, divorced from her wife in 1974, was ordered two weeks ago to make child support payments of $40 a week to her two children, a son, 13, and a daughter, 10.

A similar order was issued in 1976 by a Baltimore County court, but Ms. Roberts paid only $225 of $3,800 in the case, prosecutors said.

The Carroll County order is separate and does not affect the Baltimore County case, said Ms. Sweren, who is Domestic Relations Chief in Carroll County.

"The bulk of the money is owed to Carroll County because the ex-wife lives here. But we can't collect it unless Baltimore County does something. Maybe they will, but I haven't been informed of anything," she said.

Ms. Roberts said she has been "cross-dressing" since "I was a little kid."

"One of the reasons I got married in the first place was to try to get my head together. And my former wife knew this about me. She knew what I was," Ms. Roberts said.

Ms. Roberts had a sex change operation in 1978 and now is employed full-time at a Baltimore auto parts store.

New politics stirring up affluent Liberty Heights

There's a new political club forming in Baltimore County, and judging from the enthusiasm of its young members, there may be new faces representing the 12 Legislative District in the near future.

The club is called "We Too Belong," and is being organized by Ed Daniels, a youthful political science major.

According to Daniels, the population of the 12th district has changed, but the elected representatives of that and have failed to change with the population. He said that there are major problems in the area such as crime and the delivery of essential services, which demand new solutions.

The area has swelled with the influx of young, affluent blacks and his group hope to take advantage of that new electorate in the near future. -30-?

Deadline extended for 'lunch programs

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has extended the date it will accept comments on the comprehensive system for finding and correcting management problems in local school lunch programs to Dec. 31, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Mary Jarratt has said.

"This procedure, called the Assessment, Improvement and Monitoring System, has been underway since last January," Jarratt said. "It sets requirements for state reviews of lunch programs, corrective action on problems turned up by reviews and plans for receiving federal funds misspent in the program.

"The system is fairly complicated and we've only recently given the states additional guidelines on operating it. We're extending the comment period because we feel it's necessary to give the states additional time to get experience with the system before they can comment on it.

"We put the new system into effect in response to audits by USDA and the General Accounting Of ice that pointed out management problems in the National School Lunch Program.

The rules setting the review requirements were published in the Sept. 26, 1980 Federal Register. The rules were issued on an interim basis rather than in final form to allow refinement of the system after USDA assessed comments.

Comments should be sent, by Dec. 31, to Stanley C. Garnett, School Programs Division, FNS, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

AFRO reader turns writer

By Frederick Williams
AFRO Reader

Several days ago, a young man called the AFRO offices complaining about what he termed "the negativity" of the press, including this paper.

When told that most news is negative, the youth countered the statement.

"Put your pen where your mouth is," said a reporter. "Bring me a good, positive story and we'll print it."

That's exactly what Frederick Williams did. The following story is a result of that conversation.

Near the 1800 block of Nirth Ave. is a little street called McKean Ave. The 1800 block of McKean Ave. has an amateur and professional boxing gym called the Champ Athletic Club.

He panned us, we challenged him

The club is run by myself and Bobby Harmon, a 49-year-old former boxer. With Harmon's dedication to the public, the gym has been open to all. People from the very young to the older generation have come into the gym and, according to one ten-year-old named John, "get a welcome feeling that takes your mind off the negative stuff."?

Harmon started training fighters in 1975, and since that time e has been responsible for turning several amateurs, including middleweight Dexter Harris, into champions.

A few times, when Harmon gets discovered, I try to cheer him up by telling him that, "you're doing a good job. Hang in there, because you are doing a good deed."

Currently, the club offers boxing and physical conditioning training to about 15 youngsters and ten adults. The center is open to all, but come prepared to sweat!

Black Republicans to hold parley

The Greater Baltimore Chapter of the Maryland Black Republican Council apparently isn't letting any grass grow under its feet. The group, which was knocked reeling during the 1980 presidential elections, is "hitting the ground running", to borrow a phrase from the utular head of the party, President Ronald Reagan.

The Council will be holding a "Midday Reception" on Tuesday, July 28 at the Holiday Inn. The affair will feature as keynote speaker Samuel Pierce, the black Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in the Reagan cabinet.

Irving H. Henson, an unsuccessful candidate last April for the Fifth Congresional District seat won by Steny Hoyer, and Victor Clark Jr., a rising young Republican who survived a crushing defeat at the hands of Seventh District Congressional Rep. Parren J. Mitchell last year, are two of the organizers of the affair.

Other participants are Rev. St. George Crosse, the former city comptroller candidate who is currently under consideration for a Caribbean ambassadorship.

Helen Reed Rowe and Leonard Blackshear, two local GOP loyalists, round out the list of participants.

The program begins at 12:30 p.m., and will last to about 2 p.m. For further information contact Leonard Blackshear at 659 - 0700.

Mondawmin beauty pageant seeks city's loveliest

Mondawmin Mall is currently sponsoring a Ms. University Pageant, will give beautiful young Baltimoreans a chance to show that they have brains as well as stunning physical attributes.

The contest is being produced by the Mall, and is open to all young ladies who are full-time students in a college or university.

The pageant apparently is timed to coincide with the back-to-school season, and several lucky young ladies will have no problems buying new wardrobes if they place in the contest.

The first place winner will receive $1000, second place beauty will gain $500, and selected items of merchandise will be the third place winner's bounty.

The pageant itself will be held over a three-day period beginning on August 29 and ending on September 1. The winner will have the honor of serving as the official host for a charity ball to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

For further information, prospective winners should call 523-0862 and ask for Micheal Mesaros. Call between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

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CUSTOMER INFORMATION FROM GENERAL MOTORS

HOW TO USE A SELF-SERVICE GAS STATION

YOU CAN SAVE MONEY BY DOING SIMPLE CAR MAINTENANCE YOURSELF.

Gasoline or diesel fuel usually costs less at a self-service station. But too many people think that filling a fuel tank is all there is to self service. You'll do your automobile the most good if you also include a few simple maintenance procedures.

Most self-service pumps have easy-to-follow directions printed right on them. Before you drive into a self-service station, it's helpful to know whether your car takes leaded gas, unleaded gas, or diesel fuel, and also where your fuel tank is located, so that you can pull up to the proper pump and have the fuel tank close at hand. The type of fuel your car requires should be printed on the instrument panel, and the fuel tank location can be found in the owner's manual.

If you don't find instructions on the pump, here's what to do at most stations: 1. Turn off the engine. 2. Remove the fuel cap. 3. Remove the nozzle from the pump and turn the pump lever to "ON." 4. Place the nozzle into your fuel tank and squeeze the trigger. 5. When the trigger clicks off, remove the nozzle from the tank and turn the pump lever to "OFF." 6. Replace your fuel cap.

There are some things, however, that the directions may not tell you. Fuel fumes are highly flammable, so you should never smoke at a service station. Also, fuel caps are easy to forget and lose, so when you remove the cap try to wedge it in between the door to the tank and body of the car, where you're not likely to forget it. All 1981 and most older General Motors cars have fuel caps that twist on and then click when secure.

When you're filling up, try to avoid topping off your tank, since it may overflow. If fuel does spill on your car, you should wash it off as soon as possible, to avoid paint damage.

After you fill your tank, remember to clean your windshield. If you've been driving in bad weather, be sure to wipe off your side mirrors and headlights, too.

A quick-maintenance inspection can help you spot potential trouble. You don't need any expensive tools—just a good quality tire gauge, a rag or paper towel, an oil can spout kept in a plastic bag, and a jug of premixed windshield washer fluid, such as GM Optikleen.

To check your engine oil, pull out the dipstick, wipe it clean, insert it again, then pull it back out. The oil should be between the marks labeled "FULL" and "ADD." If it's below "ADD," add a quart of the oil recommended in your GM owner's manual.

You should also check the coolant level. Most GM cars have a see-through recovery tank. If the level looks low, add coolant to this tank. Never remove the radiator cap when the engine is hot, because pressurized coolant may overflow and burn you.

Periodically check your brake, transmission, and power steering fluid levels. Your owner's manual tells you how. Remember to keep the windshield washer reservoir filled with fluid, too, especially in the winter when you use it most often.

Most GM cars are equipped with maintenance-free batteries. But it's still wise to make sure their cables are on tight and the ends aren't frayed. Look for fraying, cracks, or other signs of wear on belts, too.

Look at tires for signs of wear or worn-out edges which can indicate improper inflation or the need for alignment. Once a month, you should use a tire gauge to check the pressure. In GM cars, the recommended pressure is on the left front door edge or inside the glove compartment. Recommended pressure is for cold tires, so check them before you drive more than a mile.

You'll be putting self-service stations to their best use if you include maintenance checks in your stops for gas. Your GM owner's manual can be an invaluable guide to proper car care. Please use it.

This advertisement is part of our continuing effort to give customers useful information about their cars and trucks and the company that builds them.

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'BEST OF STARS -81'
Sunday, 26 July 1981 2 to 5 P.M.
Baltimore Hilton Hotel —Francis Scott Key Banquet Room

A Check in the amount of $_____ is enclosed for the Best of Stars-81 Awards Program
( ) Please reserve ____ Table(s) for ten at $200.
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Mail to: Maryland Special Inaugural Committee, Best of Stars-81
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OUR WORLD

★ PARTYLINE ★ PACESETTERS ★ PEOPLE

E. Q. Productions' competition showcases local talent

FIRST PLACE WINNER in the July 12 E.Q. Talent Productions Competition held at Cameo's, Reisterstown Rd. was 14-year-old Tracey Hamlin, vocalist.

IMPRESSIONIST Andre Lucas top second place honors with his dynamic E.Q. Talent act.

TONY ELDRIDGE, male vocalist, walked away with the Talent Production's third place winning spot.

AFRO Photos by Mark Gail

RUNNERS-UP AND SPECIAL AWARDS for the Competition were received by (L - R): Deborah Gant, dancer, first female runner - up; Rudy Daniels, comedian, first male runner - up and little eight - year - old Terri Johnson, dynamite miniature singer, who got a special award.

E. Q. Productions, specializing in "Diversified Entertainment", and headed by Ernest Q. Womble, held its 1981 Summer Talent Competition Sunday, July 12 at 5 p.m. at Cameo's Reisterstown Rd.

The affair showcased some of the areas of fine, local, undiscovered talent before a host of local celebrities and several record company representatives.

The show was a grand success and provided a variety of entertainers and entertainment.

The audience enjoyed comedians, impressionists and some very fine singers, including eight - year - old Terri Johnson.

According to Womble "All of this was done to make a positive statement regarding Baltimore's talent."

Host for the show was WEBB's Randy Dennis.

Judges were William Goffigan, music composer - teacher; Isisara of Radio Station WEAA; Pat Johnson, Public Affairs Director, B - 104 Radio; Ruby Glover, jazz vocalist and teacher and Travis Winkey, owner of Winkey Modeling Co. and the Travis Winkey Magazine.

Winners were 14 - year - old Tracey Hamlin (vocalist), first place; Andre Lucas, impressionist, second place; Tony Eldridge, vocalist, third place.

Runners - up were Deborah Gant, dancer, first female runner - up; Rudy Daniels, comedian, first male runner - up and little Terri Johnson, who received a special award.

Robert Clay presents:

Mid-Summer Night's Party held at The Gatsby

DANCING TO THE DISCO TUNES are this couple at the Gatsby, 1800 block Charles St., where Robert "Bob" Clay hosted a festive 'Mid-Summer Night's Party' Monday, July 20 from 7 p.m. until 2 a.m.

ENJOYING A RAP SESSION during the festivities are (L to R): Jean Ross of Radio Station V-103 WCAO; Rodey Webb and Sandy Crawford.

AFRO Photos by Mark Gail

SOCIALIZING COUPLE — Chatting away during the party are Lenora Briscoe and Andre Brown.

PARTY HOSTS Irving Charles (L) and Bob Clay (R) are pictured here with Sandy Mallory of Radio Station V-103.

By Pattie Hodges,
AFRO Women's Editor

Whoever said people don't like to party until the weekend? This was proven "Not so" by Robert "Bob" Clay, Laurel - based contractor.

On Monday evening, July 20, Clay, and Irving Charles of this city hosted a 'Mid - Summer Night's Party' at the Gatsby, N. Charles St.

More than 100 gathered there between the hours of 7 p.m. and 2 a.m. to party the night away.

And it was done with class. Each lady received, as she entered, a long - stemmed pink or pink and white carnation, compliments of Bob Clay via Norman Holt.

It was a lively evening with lots of party - patter and folks who kept the dance floor hot with their latest disco steps as "The beat went on."

In between the dancing, cocktail sipping and rapping, Jean Ross and Sandy Mallory of Radio Station V - 103 did a 'Name That Tune' segment with Gatsby d.j.'s playing a few bars of nine popular tunes.

Those guests game enough to "play to win" walked away with nine of the latest hit albums.

It was quite a fun evening — so successful that Clay thinks it may be an on - going thing for Monday nights at the Gatsby.

It just goes to show — You don't have to wait until Friday and say T.G.I.F. You can say I.G.I.M. (I'm glad it's Monday.)

Partyline

Kweisi's annual splash party — a resounding success

By Pattie Hodges,
AFRO Women's Editor

For the third year in a row Kweisi Mfume, city councilman from the Fourth District hosted a dynamite splash party at the pool in his Village of Purnell residence, Saturday, July 18.

What a success. Hundreds of guests poured in for the party fun, and at one point, when the crowd swelled to 348, Kweisi had to close the pool entrance gate temporarily.

Folks had the time of their lives, some swimming avidly or playing in the pool, others rapping away animatedly, many snacking on assorted cheeses, salads, roast beef, munchies, punch and cocktails, and lots of dancing around the pool area to the disco tunes provided by Melvin Godsey, a former Mfume campaign worker and friend.

And in the middle of it all was Kweisi, playing the perfect host, along with his co-host Carl Swann, long - time friend and operations manager in his campaign.

Honored during the evening with two cakes and a 'Happy Birthday' salute were two Travis Winkey models . . . Miss Stevie Stevenson and Frank.

The party started at 7 p.m. and lasted until the wee hours. Kweisi said that it would be the last pool party allowed by the Village of Purnell and he stated "I feel very good about the fact that I was able to have the last one." Incidentally, he stated that this year's party was his best.

Among the guests were:

Sondra Timoll, of BETTCO; Sandy Stewart of BIG; Alfie Williams, Radio Station WWIN; Travis Winkey, Sheila Tucker, NAACP; Judge Robert Bell, Ray Haysbert, Park's Sausage exc.; Stan Stovall, Jean Ross, Radio Station V-103; Dwight Pettit, Angela Gibson;

Also Pat Lawson, TV; Delegate Walter Dean, City Councilman Norman V. A. Reeves, Delegate John Douglass, Dr. Willarda Edwards, Elliott Wallace, Ina Campbell, Zemira Jones, Natalie Love, Clarence Woolen, Alma Bell, Community Relations Commission; Curt Anderson, WMAR-TV; George Buntin;

Also Lisa Williams, Crystal Clear, Billy Taylor, Cathy Pugh, Atty. Anthony Robinson, Gwendolyn Spann, Anita Merriweather, Belva Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Douglass, Lena Redmond and Tony Woodson.

Montebello principal retires

The PTA of Montebello Elementary School recently feted Mrs. Mary Singleton Johnson at a Retirement Tribute held at La Fontaine Bleu, Erdman Ave.

She is definitely a cut above the ordinary inasmuch as she has excelled in many worthwhile and far - reaching areas.

Among them are the NAACP, Eastside Democratic Club, Baltimore Neighborhoods Inc., Mental Health Association, YWCA, Urban Leagu, Big Sisters - Little Sisters of Central Maryland and many others.

In additoon to the Retirement Celebration hosted for her, she received other tributes during the month of June. Among them were a Channel 13 Salute and Citations, Resolutions, and a Proclamation from Governor Harry Hughes, Mayor William Donald Schaefer, the City Council of Baltimore, and Senator John Carroll Byrnes.

She recently retired as Principal of Montebello Elementary School after serving the school system for more than 35 years.

She holds a B.S. Degree from Coppin State College, a master's degree from NYU and has done advanced study at Johns Hopkins and Morgan U.

For the past fourteen years, she has served as Assistant Principal and as Principal of Montebello Elementary School.

Throughout her career her concerns have not been limited to just Montebello.

She has extended her efforts far and wide serving the Baltimore community and has consistently striven for excellence — especially when it came to education for our children.

Mrs. Mary Singleton Johnson retirement honoree

(Continued on Page 10)

JUL